

Easily Play Macros with the Semicolon Key

By Mary Helm

The included macro, SEMI.WPM, is for people who hate to move their hands away from the home row. When you use it to redefine your semicolon key, you will be able to run macros with names one or two characters without reaching for (Alt-F10).

Once the macro is incorporated into your keyboard map, when you press the semicolon key, WordPerfect will wait to see what the next key is. If it's a space, you'll get a semicolon and a space. Therefore, the redefinition shouldn't interfere with your normal typing, since a semicolon is ordinarily followed by a space. You'll have to get used to not seeing the semicolon on your screen until you hit the space bar.

If you type any two characters (except a space) after hitting the semicolon key, WordPerfect will run a macro of that character name. If you type one character and then a space, WordPerfect will run the macro that has that single-character name.

With over 700 possible combinations of one- and two-character macros, you may never have to use (Alt-F10) again!

Note: No other macros are included with SEMI.WPM. The one- and two-character macros the author references are for you to designate.

To incorporate the macro into your keyboard layout:

1. Copy SEMI.WPM to the directory where you keep your macros.
2. Press (Shift-F1) (for setup).
3. Press K (for keyboard layout).
4. If a keyboard layout name appears on your screen, go to step 5. Otherwise, you'll have to define a new layout. Press C to create a layout, and give it a name when prompted.
5. Press E (for edit).
6. Press R (for retrieve).
7. When prompted for the key, press the semicolon key.
8. When prompted for the macro, type SEMI.WPM and press (Enter).
9. Press F7 twice to return to the main screen.